

### IN THE DRAWINGS

In Figure 1, please add the label –MT--for reference numeral 204.

Additionally, in Figure 1, please add the label –TE-- for reference numeral 206 as indicated in the redlined drawing sheet enclosed with this amendment.

### IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 14, line 1, please delete the text “sequence number” and insert therefor the text --signature --.

On page 14, line 5, please delete the text “sequence number” and insert therefor the text --signature --.

### IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for communicating messages to a mobile station by a wireless communication system providing access to a decentralized data network, the method comprising the steps of:
  - providing a sequence of messages;
  - providing for each respective message a respective signature, the respective signature being separate from the respective message; and
  - comparing the respective signature for any given respective message with at least one signature.

### REMARKS

Claims 1-62 are pending in the current application. In the office action dated 12/20/2000, drawings were objected to because items 204 and 206 in FIG. 1 were not labeled. Claims 1-24, 28-42, 53-57 and 62 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b); claims 25-27, 43, 48-52 and 58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a); and claims 44-47 and 59-61 were allowed.

In the current amendment, Applicants submit corrected drawings per the Examiner's invitation. Applicants assert that the corrections are of formal matter because support for the corrections is found in the original specification; consequently, the corrections do not constitute

new matter. Because all of the stated grounds for objection have been properly accommodated, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the objections.

Applicants amend the specification. Applicants assert that the amendment corrects a misprint, and, as such, constitutes a formal matter; consequently, the correction does not constitute new matter.

Applicants amended claim 1 to more accurately claim the invention. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections presented by the Examiner.

#### Acknowledgement

Applicant gratefully acknowledges prompt return of Applicant's telephone call and the Examiner's time in a telephonic interview on 2/14/2000.

#### Objection to Drawings

The drawings were objected to because items 204 and 206 in FIG. 1 were not labeled. Applicants accept the Examiners invitation to mark the item 204 as "MT" and the item 206 as "TE". Applicants submitted new formal drawings reflecting these changes. Applicants assert that the corrections are of formal matter because all corrections are contained in the original specification; consequently, the corrections do not constitute new matter.

Because all of the stated grounds for objection have been properly accommodated, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the objections.

#### Amendment to Specification

Applicants assert that the amendment to specification corrects a misprint made in the original specification. In the "Description of the Related Art" section, Applicants described use of *sequence numbers* in overhead messages to conserve power at a mobile station in communication systems with centralized control. (Application, p. 3, line 25-p. 4, line 31). Applicants then discussed difference in overhead messaging in a communication systems accessing decentralized network, and concluded, that means different from the sequence numbers are needed in the communication systems accessing decentralized network to achieve power and bandwidth saving. (Application, p. 5 line 1-p. 6, line 3).

A concept of a *signature* as the means for achieving the power and bandwidth savings in the communication systems accessing decentralized network was introduced in the "Summary of Invention" section. (Application, p. 7, lines 1-22). This concept is then explained in the "Detailed Description of Preferred Embodiment" section. Applicants note that the use of the

term signature is consistent throughout the specifications as applied to the communication systems accessing decentralized network. Consequently, the amendment corrected misprint; therefore, no new matter was introduced.

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-24, 28-42, 53-57, and 62 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tiedemann, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent 5,392,287).

In regards to claims 1, 2, 14, and 57 the office action contends that Tiedemann, Jr. et al., in column 8, lines 54-64, teaches each and every element of Applicant's claimed invention. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants explained in the specification that in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention, a signature capsule *separate* from a respective overhead message capsule is provided on the forward link. (Application, Fig. 2, p. 12, line 23-p. 13, line 19). Consequently, the mobile unit wakes up, "receives the signature of the overhead message which will be *received later* and decides whether to stay awake and receive the overhead message." (Application, p. 1, lines 2-4). Therefore, there is no need to *decode* or even to *receive* the overhead message. In contrast, Tiedemann, Jr. et al. discloses an overhead message structure *containing within* a sequence number. (Tiedemann, Jr. et al., Fig. 5a, col. 9, lines 1-4.) Consequently, the message must be *received* and *decoded* for the sequence number to be provided. (Tiedemann, Jr. et al., col. 7, lines 1-12, lines 46-65.)

Applicants explained in the specification that in accordance with other embodiment of the present invention, a respective signature *separate* from a respective overhead message is provided. (Application, Fig. 4, p. 15, line 26-p. 16, line 24). As discussed, Tiedemann, Jr. et al. fails to disclose such feature.

Applicants amended claim 1 to more accurately claim features of the present invention.

Therefore, because Tiedemann, Jr. et al. fails to teach each and every element of Applicant claim 1, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection.

With respect to claims 3-13, 15-24, 28-42, and 53-56, and 62, Applicants note that the claims are dependent from claim 1 and/or any intervening claims. Because, as discussed, claim 1 and any intervening claims are in condition for allowance, it follows that claims 3-13, 15-24, 28-42, and 53-56, and 62 are also in condition for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection.

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 25-27, 43, 48-52 and 58 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by Tiedemann, Jr. et al.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the reference must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, *not in Applicant's disclosure*.

In regards to claims 25-27 the office action admits that Tiedemann, Jr. et al. fails to disclose listening for a first second and third respective messages, but contends that it would be obvious to one of ordinary skills to modify Tiedemann, Jr. et al. "to listen to a respective message having a respective sequence number (signature) that does not match a corresponding sequence number (signature) previously stored and, therefore, saving battery power since only a different message not previously received would be decoded." Applicants respectfully disagree.

First, as discussed, Tiedemann, Jr. et al. fails to teach each and every element of Applicants' claim 1. Consequently, even if Tiedemann, Jr. et al. could be modified, the modification would still failed to teach Applicants claims 25-27 because these claims depend from claim 1.

Second, there is no reasonable expectation of success. Assume, *arguendo*, that the signature of Applicant's invention is an equivalent to the sequence number of Tiedemann, Jr. et al. The sequence number is *in* the message (Tiedemann, Jr. et al., col. 8, lines 49-57). Therefore, the message must be *received* and *decoded* to ascertain the sequence number. Consequently, no power savings can be accomplished as the office action contends.

For the above reasons obviousness *prima facie* has not been established, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection.

In regards to claims 43, 48, 49 and 58, the office action admits that Tiedemann, Jr. et al. fails to disclose the use of hash function for providing signatures, but contends that it would be obvious to one of ordinary skills to modify Tiedemann, Jr. et al. do so. Applicants respectfully disagree.

First, as discussed, Tiedemann, Jr. et al. fails to teach each and every element of Applicant claim 1. Consequently, even if Tiedemann, Jr. et al. could be modified, the

modification would still failed to teach Applicants claims 43, 48, 49 and 58 because these claims depend from claim 1.

Furthermore, even assuming, *arguendo*, that the signature of Applicant's invention is an equivalent to the sequence number of Tiedemann, Jr. et al., there is no suggestion or motivation in Tiedemann, Jr. et al. for use of a hashing function for providing sequence numbers. Tiedemann, Jr. et al. specifically discusses the use of hashing function to pseudorandomly *assign slot numbers* to but fails to even mention why the use of hashing function should be applied to *assignment of sequence numbers*. Consequently, the office action used impermissible hindsight reconstruction to arrive at elements of Applicant's claims.

For the above reasons obviousness *prima facie* has not been established, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection.

In regards to claims 50-52, the office action admits that Tiedemann, Jr. et al. fails to disclose the use of a counter for providing signatures, but takes Official Notice that it is well known in the art to use counters when assigning sequence numbers to a sequence of messages. Applicants respectfully disagree.

First, as discussed, Tiedemann, Jr. et al. fails to teach each and every element of Applicant claim 1. Consequently, even if Tiedemann, Jr. et al. could be modified, the modification would still failed to teach Applicants claims 51-53 because these claims depend from claim 1.

For the above reasons obviousness *prima facie* has not been established, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter:

The office action objected to claims 44-47 and 59-61 as being dependent on rejected base claims. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that they would be allowed if re-written in an independent form.

However, Applicants believe that the arguments presented in this amendment render all the base claims allowable. Consequently, claims 44-47 and 59-61 should be also allowed as written. Applicants, however, reserve the option of re-writing them in an independent form in the course of prosecution.

**CONCLUSION**

All of the stated grounds for objection and rejection have been properly accommodated and traversed. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections, and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Dated: February 20, 2000

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### REMARKS

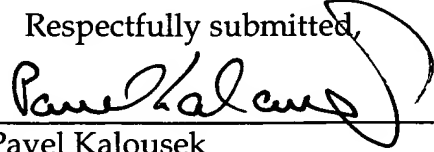
Upon review of the current application, minor discrepancies and omissions in the drawings were discovered which are corrected herein by amendment. Applicants hereby respectfully request approval of these changes to the drawings. A red-marked copy of the proposed drawing changes is attached hereto for review and approval by the Examiner. It is believed that no new matter is added to the application nor is the scope of the application affected by these changes.

Specifically, in Figure 1 Applicants added labels to reference numerals 204 and 206 to correspond with the specification.

Applicants submit that the above amendments to the drawing do not make any substantive changes or require any additional work on the part of the Office, but are simply the correction of minor errors. Therefore, approval and entry of the above amendments are respectfully requested. Upon approval of the proposed drawing changes, formal drawings will be submitted upon receipt of the Notice of Allowance.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this amendment, he is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney for Applicant.

Dated: February 20, 2001

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Approved!! 2.P.6 - 8/4/01 1  
Refers to - [Signature]

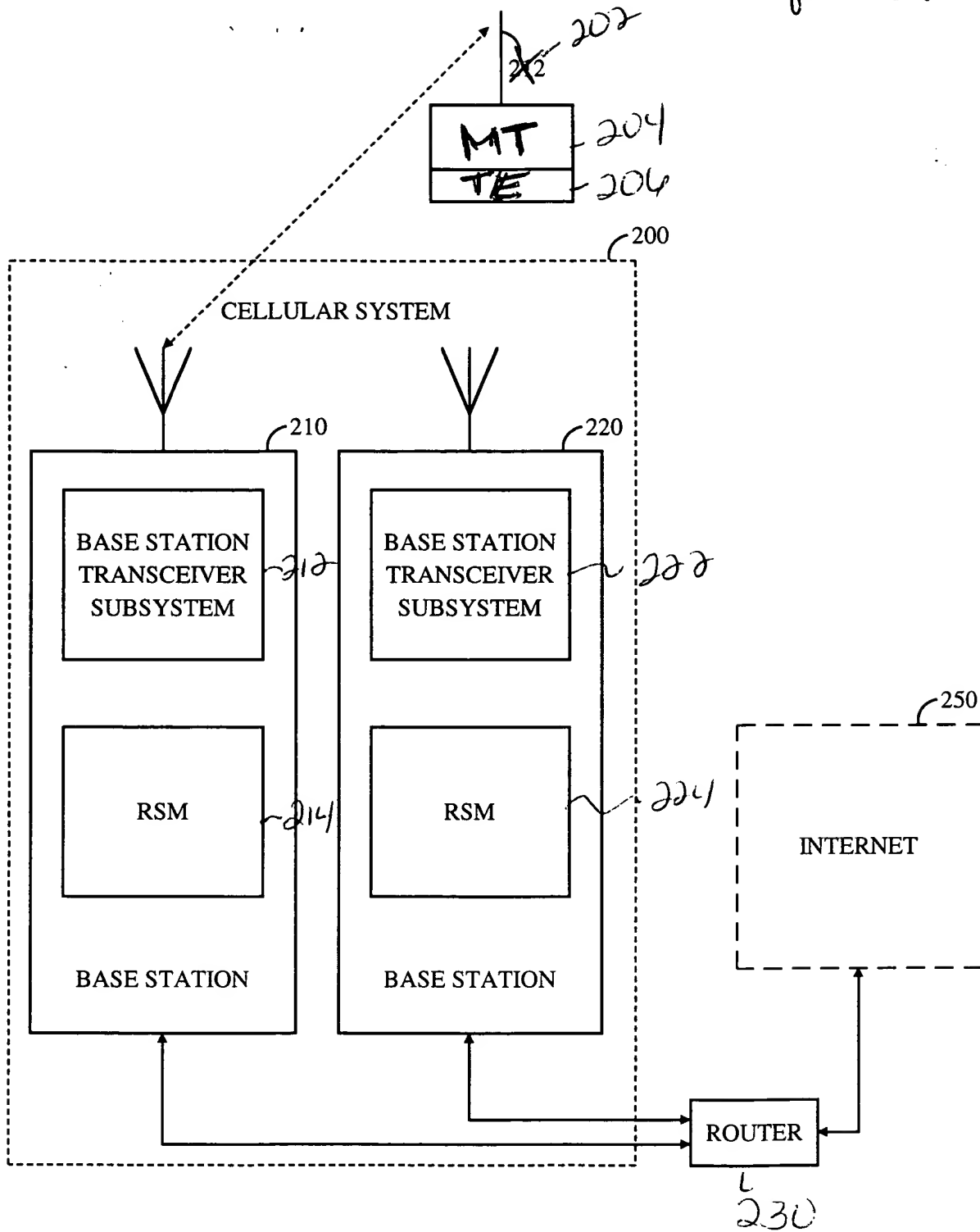


FIG. 1